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9-12 April 1996
Item 2 of the provisional agenda

FOR ACTION

ANNOTATED PROVISIONAL AGENDA AND ORGANIZATION OF WORK

For the second regular session of 1996 of the Executive Board to be held at United Nations Headquarters from 9 to 12 April 1996

SUMMARY

The present document contains the annotated provisional agenda for the second regular session of 1996 of the Executive Board. The annex provides the proposed timetable and organization of work for the session.

PROVISIONAL AGENDA

Item 1: Opening of the session: statements by the President and the Executive Director

Item 2: Adoption of the provisional agenda and timetable and organization of work

Item 3: Proposals for UNICEF cooperation and programme reviews:

- (a) Africa
  - (i) Eastern and Southern Africa
- (b) Americas and the Caribbean
- (c) Asia
  - (i) East Asia and the Pacific
  - (ii) South Asia
- (d) Central and Eastern Europe, the Commonwealth of Independent States and the Baltic States (including a report on the UNICEF approach to the region)
- (e) Middle East and North Africa

Item 4: Mid-term country programme reviews and evaluations

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- (a) Integrated budget for headquarters and regional offices for 1996-1997
- (b) Harmonization of budget presentations

Item 6: Progress report on the management excellence programme

Item 7: Annual report to the Economic and Social Council (part II of the report of the Executive Director)

Item 8: Follow-up to the triennial policy review on operational activities for development

Item 9: 1996 UNICEF Maurice Pate Award

Item 10: Other matters

Item 11: Concluding remarks by the Executive Director and the President

ANNOTATED PROVISIONAL AGENDA

1. Opening of the session: statements by the President and the Executive Director

Introductory statements will be made by the President of the Executive Board and the Executive Director.

2. Adoption of the provisional agenda and timetable and organization of work
[FOR ACTION]

The provisional agenda has been structured in accordance with relevant Executive Board decisions, in particular the 1996 programme of work adopted by the Board at its third regular session in September 1995 (E/ICEF/1995/9/Rev.1, decision 1995/38). It has been shared with Board members (CF/EB/1996/007 and CF/EB/1996/011).

The timetable and organization of work are provided in the annex.

Draft decisions will be adopted as the discussion of each agenda item is concluded. However, if required, time will be allocated for Board members to consult informally on all outstanding draft decisions.

When consideration of an agenda item concludes ahead of the allocated time, the next item on the agenda will be taken up for consideration and the timetable adjusted accordingly.

3. Proposals for UNICEF cooperation and programme reviews
[FOR ACTION - E/ICEF/1996/P/L.44-E/ICEF/1996/P/L.60]

Under the new process for the consideration and approval of country programme recommendations (CPRs) approved at the first regular Board session of 1995 (E/ICEF/1995/9/Rev.1, decision 1995/8), some 40 country notes for programmes of cooperation to be implemented in 1997 were reviewed by the Board at its first regular session in January 1996, and the final CPRs will be submitted for Board approval at its third regular session in September 1996.

With regard to that decision, it was also necessary for the secretariat to take into account those country programmes being prepared in 1995 for Board approval in 1996, under advance authorization, for implementation beginning in 1996. Since those country programme preparations were begun under past procedures and were nearing finalization, it was decided that the resulting CPRs should be considered for approval at the present session.

There are 16 country programmes and 1 regional programme for Eastern and Southern Africa being submitted to the Board at the present session, which will be introduced by the relevant regional directors.

A summary of 1996 recommendations for general resources and supplementary funding programmes (known informally as the "round-up" paper) is provided in documents E/ICEF/1996/P/L.43 and Add.1.

(a) Africa

(i) Eastern and Southern Africa
[E/ICEF/1996/P/L.44 and E/ICEF/1996/P/L.45]

There are two recommendations for Board review and approval: Zambia and the Eastern and Southern Africa Regional Office.

(b) Americas and the Caribbean
[E/ICEF/1996/P/L.46-E/ICEF/1996/P/L.50]

There are five recommendations for Board review and approval: Honduras, Mexico, Nicaragua, Peru and Venezuela.

(c) Asia

(i) East Asia and the Pacific
[E/ICEF/1996/P/L.51]

There is one recommendation for Board review and approval: Cambodia.

(ii) South Asia
[E/ICEF/1996/P/L.52 and E/ICEF/1996/P/L.53]

There are two recommendations for Board review and approval: India and Pakistan.

(d) Central and Eastern Europe, the Commonwealth of Independent States and the Baltic States
[E/ICEF/1996/P/L.54-E/ICEF/1996/P/L.59]

There are five recommendations for Board review and approval: Albania, Bosnia and Herzegovina and area office, Croatia, Georgia, The former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia and the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia.

Under this agenda item, the Board also will have before it for information a report on the UNICEF approach to Central and Eastern Europe, the Commonwealth of Independent States and the Baltic States (E/ICEF/1996/P/L.61).

(e) Middle East and North Africa
[E/ICEF/1996/P/L.60]

There is one recommendation for Board review and approval: Lebanon.

4. Mid-term country programme reviews and evaluations
[FOR INFORMATION - E/ICEF/1996/P/L.42]

This report responds to Executive Board decision 1995/8 on the consideration and approval process of CPRs, taking into account decision 1995/38 on the 1996 programme of work and allocation of agenda items. In decision 1995/8, the secretariat was requested to submit to the Board a summary of the outcome of mid-term reviews and major evaluation reports, specifying, inter alia, the results achieved, lessons learned and the need for any adjustment in

the country note. (The report on mid-term reviews to be presented in 1997 will also include a summary of the reports of major evaluations done at the country level.) The Board may wish to provide guidance to the secretariat, as necessary.

5. Budgetary matters

(a) Integrated budget for headquarters and regional offices for 1996-1997

[FOR ACTION - E/ICEF/1996/AB/L.5]

As noted by the Board at its third regular session in September 1995 (E/ICEF/1995/9/Rev.1, decisions 1995/30 and 1995/32), the secretariat is submitting to the present session for Board review and approval an integrated budget for headquarters and regional offices for the biennium 1996-1997 which incorporates the budgets of administrative and programme support and global funds into one unified budget.

The Board also will have before it for review the report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions on this document (E/ICEF/1996/AB/L.7).

(b) Harmonization of budget presentations

As requested by the Board in its decision 1995/37 (E/ICEF/1995/9/Rev.1) on the harmonization of budget presentations, adopted at its third regular session in September 1995, the secretariat will present an oral progress report on the subject.

6. Progress report on the management excellence programme

[FOR INFORMATION - E/ICEF/1996/AB/L.6]

This report is submitted to the Board in response to Executive Board decision 1995/25 (E/ICEF/1995/9/Rev.1) in which the secretariat was requested to provide the Board with regular updates on progress made in the follow-up to the management review.

7. Annual report to the Economic and Social Council (part II of the report of the Executive Director

8. Follow-up to the triennial policy review on operational activities for development

[FOR ACTION - E/ICEF/1996/10 (Part II)]

At its third regular session in September 1995, the Board decided to include these as two separate items on the agenda of the present session (decision 1995/38). However, taking into account Economic and Social Council resolutions 1994/33 of 28 July 1994, and 1995/50, 1995/51 and 1995/56, all of 28 July 1995, as well as Executive Board decision 1995/5 (E/ICEF/1995/9/Rev.1), the Bureau of the Executive Board decided that these two agenda items should be combined for submission in one single report and for consideration as one item of agenda.

In accordance with Council resolution 1994/33, the annual report contains a section on activities and measures undertaken within the designated theme for the high-level meeting of the operational activities segment. By its resolution 1995/50, the Council decided that in 1996 the high-level meeting should focus on strengthening collaboration between the United Nations development system and the Bretton Woods institutions in the areas of social and economic development, at all levels, including the field level.

The annual report to the Council also reports on (a) steps taken to refine and effectively apply procedures for monitoring and evaluation activities, strengthening national capacity, improving national participation in evaluation and promoting greater collaboration in evaluation, as well as improving the cost-effectiveness of administrative services (as per Economic and Social Council resolution 1995/51); and (b) strengthening the coordination of emergency humanitarian assistance of the United Nations (as per Economic and Social Council resolution 1995/56).

The Executive Board may wish to take note of this report and transmit it to the 1996 substantive session of the Council along with its comments.

9. 1996 UNICEF Maurice Pate Award

[FOR ACTION - E/ICEF/1996/11]

On the basis of the Bureau's examination of the nominations submitted, the Executive Director has made a recommendation for the recipient of the 1996 UNICEF Maurice Pate Award for Board approval.

10. Other matters

Board members may recall that at the first regular session in January 1996, the Under-Secretary-General for Internal Oversight Services made an informal presentation on a draft report of the Secretary-General on enhancing the internal oversight mechanisms in operational funds and programmes. The draft report was subsequently distributed in all official languages to Board members by the Executive Director. This matter will be discussed at the present session under this agenda item (see E/ICEF/1996/CRP.10).

In accordance with decision 1995/27 (E/ICEF/1995/9/Rev.1) adopted at the third regular session in September 1995, the Board will have for information under this agenda item a progress report on the audit of the Kenya country office (E/ICEF/1996/AB/L.4).

In view of the expiry of Board membership of the Philippines, which represented the Asian group on the UNICEF/World Health Organization Joint Committee on Health Policy, the Executive Board will elect one member and one alternate from among the present Board members belonging to the Asian group to serve on the Joint Committee for the remainder of the 1995-1996 biennium, in accordance with its decision 1994/R.2/5 (E/ICEF/1994/13/Rev.1).

In addition, the Board may consider discussing any other issues that it finds timely and appropriate under this agenda item.

11. Concluding remarks by the Executive Director and the President

The Executive Director and the President will make concluding remarks, followed by the closure of the session.

Annex

PROPOSED TIMETABLE AND ORGANIZATION OF WORK FOR THE SECOND REGULAR SESSION OF 1996 OF THE EXECUTIVE BOARD, 9-12 APRIL*

TUESDAY, 9 APRIL	a.m./ p.m.	Item 1	Opening of the session: statements by the President and the Executive Director
		Item 2	Adoption of the provisional agenda and timetable and organization of work
		Item 3	Proposals for UNICEF cooperation and programme reviews:
			(a) Africa: (i) Eastern and Southern Africa
			(b) Americas and the Caribbean
			(c) Asia: (i) East Asia and the Pacific; and (ii) South Asia
WEDNESDAY, 10 APRIL	a.m./ p.m.	Item 3 (cont'd)	Proposals for UNICEF cooperation and programme reviews (continued):
			(d) Central and Eastern Europe, the Commonwealth of Independent States and the Baltic States (including a report on the UNICEF approach to the region)
			(e) Middle East and North Africa
		Item 4	Mid-term country programme reviews and evaluations
		Item 5	Budgetary matters:
			(a) Integrated budget for headquarters and regional offices for 1996-1997
			(b) Harmonization of budget presentations
THURSDAY, 11 APRIL	a.m./ p.m.	Item 5 (cont'd)	Budgetary matters (continued)
FRIDAY, 12 APRIL	a.m./ p.m.	Item 6	Progress report on the management excellence programme
		Item 7 and	Annual report to the Economic and Social Council (part II of the report of the Executive Director)
		Item 8	Follow-up to the triennial policy review on operational activities for development
		Item 9	1996 UNICEF Maurice Pate Award
		Item 10	Other matters
		Item 11	Concluding remarks by the Executive Director and the President

* When consideration of an agenda item concludes ahead of the allocated time, the next item on the agenda will be taken up for consideration and the timetable adjusted accordingly.